

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): A peptide which specifically targets and binds to a dendritic cell.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The peptide of claim 1, wherein said dendritic cell is a myeloid dendritic cell myeloid dendritic cell, a Langerhans dendritic cell or a plasmacytoid dendritic cell.

Claim 3 (original): The peptide of claim 2, wherein said peptide is a 12 amino acid residue peptide.

Claim 4 (original): The peptide of claim 3, wherein said peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 1-20.

Claims 5-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (currently amended): The peptide of claim 3 6, wherein said peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 21-37.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (original): A fusion protein, comprising:

a peptide which specifically targets and binds to a dendritic cell; and  
a non-dendritic cell protein or fragments thereof.

Claim

10 (original): The fusion protein of claim 9, wherein said non-dendritic cell protein is a tumor associated antigen.

Claim 11 (original): The fusion protein of claim 10, wherein said tumor associated antigen is Melan A, MAG-3, gp100, or her2/neu.

Claim 12 (original): The fusion protein of claim 9, wherein said non-dendritic cell protein is an inhibitor of dendritic cell function or activity.

Claim 13 (original): A vaccine delivery system, comprising:

a peptide which specifically targets and binds to dendritic cells; and  
a virus specific protein; or  
a bacteria specific protein; or  
a tumor associated antigen; or  
fragments thereof.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The vaccine delivery system of claim 13, wherein said dendritic cell is a myeloid dendritic cell, a Langerhans dendritic cell or a plasmacytoid dendritic cell.

Claim 15 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 13, wherein said peptide is a 12 amino acid residue peptide.

Claim 16 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 15, wherein said peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 1-20 .

Claims 17-18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (currently amended): The vaccine delivery system of claim 15 ~~48~~, wherein said peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 21-37.

Claim  
20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 13, wherein said virus specific protein is from HCV, HIV, Ebola, rotavirus, or any pathogenic human virus.

Claim 22 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 21, wherein said HCV protein is NS3, E1 or E2.

Claim 23 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 21, wherein said HIV protein is Nef, gp120 or gag.

Claim 24 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 21, wherein said Ebola protein is subunit GP or subunit VP40.

Claim 25 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 13, wherein said tumor associated antigen is Melan A, MAG-3, gp100 or HER2/Neu.

Claim 26 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 13, wherein said bacteria specific protein is from *Bacillus anthracis*, *Yersinia pestis* or any pathogenic human bacterium.

Claim 27 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 26, wherein said *B. anthracis* protein is protective antigen.

Claim 28 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 26, wherein said *Y. pestis* protein is F1-V.

Claim 29 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 13, wherein said system is expressed in a bacterial host.

Claim 30 (original): The vaccine delivery system of claim 29, wherein said bacterial host is *Salmonella*.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A method of promoting an immune response in an individual in need of such treatment, comprising:

administering to said individual an effective amount of a composition comprising:

[[a]] ~~the peptide which specifically targets and binds to dendritic cells;~~  
and one of the other components of the vaccine delivery system of claim 13

~~a virus specific protein; or~~

~~a bacteria specific protein; or~~

~~a tumor associated antigen;~~

~~or fragments thereof.~~

Claims 32-48 (canceled):

Claim 49 (currently amended): A DNA sequence encoding [[a]] the peptide of claim 1 ~~which specifically targets and binds to dendritic cells.~~

Claims 50-58 (canceled).

Claim 59 (currently amended): A DNA sequence encoding ~~[[a]]~~ the fusion protein of claim 9 ~~[[.]]~~ ~~said fusion protein comprising:~~

~~a peptide which specifically targets and binds to dendritic cells; and~~  
~~a non-dendritic cell protein or fragments thereof.~~

Claims 60-62 (canceled).

Claim 63 (currently amended): The DNA sequence of claim 9 ~~59~~, wherein said peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 1-20.

Claim 64 (currently amended): The DNA sequence of claim 9 ~~59~~, wherein said peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 21-37.

Claim 65 (currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The peptide of claim 1, wherein said ~~peptide which specifically targets and binds to dendritic cells having~~ has a sequence at least 80% homologous ~~homology~~ to ~~a peptide having~~ an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 1-20.

Claim 66 (currently amended): ~~[[A]] The peptide of claim 1, wherein said peptide which specifically targets and binds to dendritic cells having~~ has a sequence at least 80% homologous ~~homology~~ to ~~a peptide having~~ an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 21-37.

Claim 67 (currently amended): ~~[[A]] The fusion protein of claim 9,~~  
~~comprising:~~

~~wherein said [[a]] peptide which specifically targets and binds to dendritic cells having~~ has a sequence at least 80% homologous ~~homology~~ to ~~a peptide having~~ an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 1-20 ~~[[;]]~~ and

~~a non-dendritic cell protein or fragments thereof.~~

Claims 68-70 (canceled).

Claim 71 (currently amended): ~~[[A]] The fusion protein of claim 9,~~  
~~comprising:~~

~~wherein said [[a]] peptide which specifically targets and binds to dendritic cells having~~ has a sequence at least 80% homologous ~~homology~~ to ~~a peptide having~~ an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 21-37 ~~[[;]]~~ and

~~a non-dendritic cell protein or fragments thereof.~~

Claims 72-74 (canceled).

Claim 75 (original): A multivalent vaccine delivery system, comprising:  
at least two peptides which specifically target and bind to dendritic cells;

and

at least two virus specific proteins.